

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Van Erp in view of Mickle.

5 As noted by the USPTO, Van Erp does not state the angle of the wires shown. Accordingly, it cannot be stated that Van Erp meets the limitation of claim 1, let alone the more stringent requirement of claim 2, which the cable of Van Erp would appear to not meet.

10 McMickle, as noted by the Examiner, notes that it was well known in the art to vary the lay length of wires in cardiac implant electric cable to alter the flexibility of the cable. It has generally been necessary, however, to wind the wires with a fairly tight
15 pitch, to lend greater flexibility and wear resistance to a cable that must withstand the flexure caused by the constant beating of the heart.

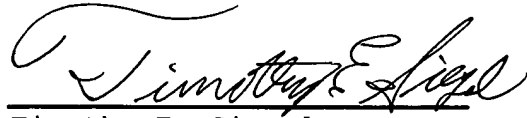
 Accordingly, all of the prior art of cardiac implant cables, including McMickle, teach away from the
20 present invention wherein a loose pitch, previously thought to be unworkable is used. The use of this loose pitch is made possible by, among other design features, the innovative coatings of tetrafluoroethylene (TFE) and polyurethane used in the preferred embodiment. The
25 present invention is a solution to the problem of needing greater flow of information and greater number of power cables for more advanced cardiac implants. The helix is loosened, permitting a greater number of leads, but because those leads are more tightly constrained in a TFE
30 coating, they nevertheless display a wear resistance, even with the looser helix, that permits their use in the challenging cardiac implant environment. The specification enables the looser pitch of the helix, but it is important to note that the applicant is not arguing

that the TFE coating be given the status of a claim limitation.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and
5 early notification of claim allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Timothy E. Siegel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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